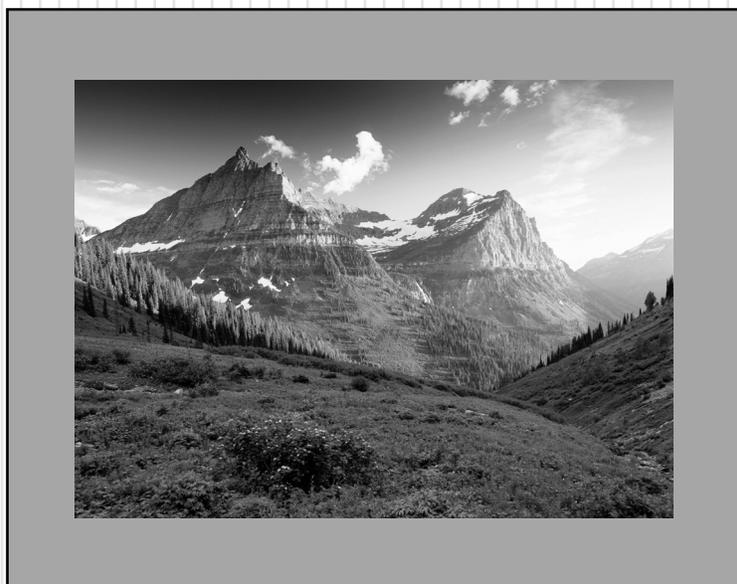


Montana
Comprehensive Assessment
System (MontCAS, Phase 2)
Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT)

COMMON CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ITEM RELEASE
READING, GRADE 4

2005



OPI

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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Reading

Session 1

Claudia spends part of each summer with her grandfather Abuelo, who cannot hear. Together, they share many special times. Read this story about Claudia and Abuelo and then answer the questions that follow.

Abuelo's House

by Kristine L. Franklin

“Abuelo, there’s a dragon in the garden!”

When Claudia talks to her grandfather, she makes sure he sees her face.

“A BIG GREEN DRAGON!” Claudia speaks slowly, and sometimes she says things twice. “REALLY BIG, Abuelo. *Grande.*”

It helps if she uses her hands to show Abuelo what she means. “BIG! Come out and see.”

“¿Un dragón?” says Abuelo. “We had better take care of it right now.”

Abuelo can’t hear. The inside part of his ears that used to hear birds and music and talking doesn’t work anymore. When Claudia plugs her ears tight, she still hears noises. All Abuelo hears is quiet.

Claudia helps Abuelo squirt the dragon with the hose before it burns up the tomatoes. If she needs to get Abuelo’s attention, she pats his arm. Screaming and yelling don’t help one bit.

“Over there! Another dragon! See the smoke?” The pretend dragon hisses and disappears when Abuelo squirts it.

“Do you see any more?” asks Abuelo.

“No.” Claudia shakes her head. She takes Abuelo’s rough old hand, and they go inside. Abuelo knows all about dragons. He knows all about gardens, too.

Claudia spends part of each summer at Abuelo’s house. Every summer they plant a

vegetable garden with peas and beans and corn and tomatoes. They water the garden and pull all the weeds. They make sure the dragons stay away. They ride bikes, too, every day, when they aren’t busy tending the garden. On rainy days Claudia helps Abuelo with his work.

Abuelo is an artist. He has a studio in his house. There are drawings and paintings and pencils and more paints than Claudia has ever seen. She helps by putting the little tubes of paint in piles.

“What is this color called, Abuelo?”

“Little-girl-with-brown-eyes brown,” says Abuelo.

“What are you painting now, Abuelo?”

When Claudia asks “what?” it is like a shrug.

“*Una sorpresa,*” says Abuelo.

“A surprise? For me? Tell me, Abuelo!”

Claudia hops up and down. She waves her hands. She points to the painting. Then she points to herself. “Is it for me?” Abuelo pretends not to notice. His eyes crinkle up. He smiles. But he does not tell.

“Please tell me the surprise, Abuelo, PLEASE!”

Abuelo shakes his head. Abuelo can be very stubborn.

When Claudia eats lunch at Abuelo’s house, she has to clean her plate. Sometimes she doesn’t like the food. She is glad Abuelo can’t

hear her complain. “These tortillas* are too dry,” says Claudia.

“Eat the tortillas,” says Abuelo with a frown. Abuelo knows all about children.

“Who is the special painting for?” Claudia asks. Abuelo can’t hear her pouty voice. She tears the tortillas into little pieces. She puts the tortilla pieces in straight rows across her plate.

“No more questions about the painting,” says Abuelo sternly. “Eat!”

“I [stomp] WANT [stomp] TO [stomp] KNOW [stomp] THE [stomp] SURPRISE [stomp] RIGHT [stomp] NOW!” Claudia yells.

Abuelo feels the floor shake. “Stop making all that noise,” he scolds.

In the evening, Claudia and Abuelo watch Abuelo’s special TV. Claudia listens, and Abuelo watches the little words at the bottom of the picture. They laugh at all the jokes together. Once, when Abuelo laughs especially hard, Claudia pats his arm. “Who is that secret painting for, Abuelo?” He laughs even harder. Little tears squeeze out of his eyes.

“You’re snoopy,” says Abuelo.

“You’re very stubborn, Abuelo.”

A light flashes in the room. Abuelo’s telephone is ringing.

FLASH! FLASH! Abuelo picks up the phone. He puts it on a little machine that looks like a typewriter. Claudia calls it the Abuelo-phone. She has an Abuelo-phone at her house so she can call Abuelo and Abuelo can call her. Abuelo types H-E-L-L-O.

“Hi, Papa,” the Abuelo-phone types back. It is Claudia’s mother. The Abuelo-phone clicks and beeps. Abuelo and Claudia’s mother type back and forth.

Then Abuelo types G-O-O-D-B-Y-E and hangs up the phone.

“Your mother will be here next Sunday to pick you up,” he says. Claudia is very quiet. “Don’t be sad, *preciosa*,” says Abuelo. “You will come again next summer.”

Claudia shows Abuelo OK and nods. This is the only part of summer she doesn’t like.

“Let’s go out to the studio,” Abuelo says. “I have something special to show you.”

Inside the studio Abuelo shows Claudia the secret painting. It is covered with a cloth, but Claudia isn’t curious anymore. “Don’t you want to see your surprise?” asks Abuelo.

“OK,” says Claudia. It wouldn’t be nice to hurt Abuelo’s feelings. Claudia lifts the cloth.

The painting is Claudia! It’s Claudia and Abuelo and the garden and the red tomatoes and the hot yellow sun and the blue sky and green green beans and the tall corn with fuzzy silk sticking out at the tops.

“Oh, Abuelo, it’s the best surprise I’ve ever had, the *very* best!” Claudia jumps into Abuelo’s arms and squeezes him around the neck. “I love you, Abuelito.” Abuelo understands hugs.



*tortilla: a flat cake made of corn or wheat flour

22. Describe the special relationship between Claudia and Abuelo. Use details from the story to support your answer.

Scoring Guide

Score	Description
4	Response provides a thorough description of the special relationship between Claudia and Abuelo. Response is well supported with relevant details from the story.
3	Response provides a description of the special relationship between Claudia and Abuelo. Response lacks some development and/or relevant details from the story as support.
2	Response provides a limited description of the special relationship between Claudia and Abuelo. Response is supported with few or no relevant details from the story.
1	Response provides a minimal or vague description of the special relationship between Claudia and Abuelo.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	No response.

Description of the special relationship between Claudia and Abuelo—A thorough response will include most of the points listed below.

- Abuelo and Claudia are grandfather and granddaughter.
- Abuelo is deaf, so they communicate with each other in unique ways, including using a special telephone she calls the “Abuelo-phone.”
- Abuelo and Claudia watch television together.
- Abuelo and Claudia see each other only in the summer.
- Every summer, Abuelo and Claudia plant a vegetable garden.
- They play games in the garden such as squirting imaginary dragons.
- Claudia helps Abuelo organize his paint tubes in his art studio.
- Abuelo and Claudia speak to each other in English and in Spanish.
- Abuelo prepares Spanish food for Claudia.
- Abuelo and Claudia can both be stubborn and argue about things.
- Abuelo painted a surprise painting for Claudia in the story.

Score Point 4

Sample 1

I think they have a very loving and comfortable relationship. Claudia obviously loves being with Abuelo, and Abuelo definitely loves having her be with him. They have a lot of fun together from squirting imaginary dragons in their garden that they tend to, to eating dinner, watching T.U, painting, and many other things. Sometimes I think that Claudia feels a little sorry for Abuelo for not being able to hear. But I also know as a fact that they love each other very much. I know this because at the end of the story, Claudia is sad to leave and Abuelo is sad to have her go.

Thorough description of their relationship with lots of specific support. Insightful.

Score Point 3

Sample 1

here is something for you to know. Claudia and Abuelo have a really really close friendship. They might like to paint pictures together. They play games with each other. They water the garden and they plant plants. They watch T.V. with each other and laugh at the jokes that were on the T.V. And most of all is that they LOVE each other. So now you know something about Claudia and Abuelo.

Generally describes their "close friendship." Lacks some development.

Score Point 2

Sample 1

They have a good relationships.
They love eachother a lot.
They don't want to leave
eachother. When they somit
together they use the
abloc- phone.

Limited. Very little support from text.

Score Point 1

Sample 1

well I would say that they havent seen eachother For awhile and they probably miss eachother. And there feelings are happy for eachother.

Minimal. Vague. Some feelings, no support.

Score Point 0

Sample 1

support the question of Claudia and Abuelo.

Attempt at repeating the prompt.

Reading

Session 3

Birds can be fun to watch as they eat from bird feeders. Read this article about bird feeders and then answer the questions that follow.

Bird Feeding and Housing

by Carol A. Amato

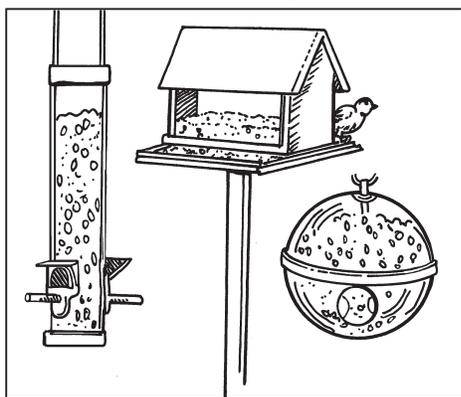
Have you ever heard the saying “She eats like a bird”? People who often say this are referring to someone who doesn’t eat very much, but what many people don’t know is that birds eat quite a bit. Even the smallest are always on the lookout for food. Flying, nest building, and keeping warm in winter are activities that burn up lots of calories.

What kind of feeders should I use?

Birdfeeders come in many shapes and sizes. Store-bought feeders can be simple and inexpensive or more elaborate and costly. You might have more fun (and save money) by making your own feeders.

Hanging or Hopper Feeders

One of the most popular feeders is the hopper type. Hopper feeders allow only a certain amount of seeds out at a time. Hoppers come in many shapes, including tubes, made of clear glass or plastic, and boxes, usually made of wood with a pane of glass or plastic on two sides. These

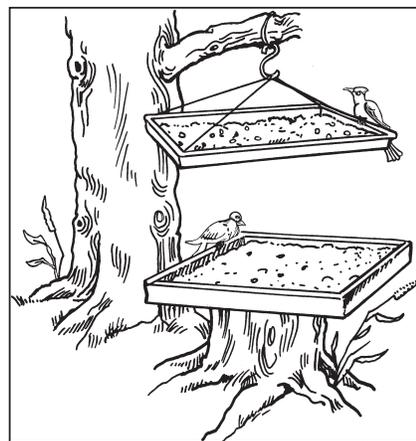


Hanging or Hopper Feeders

feeders can be hung from a wire or mounted on a pole. You can customize your feeder by attaching one or two sticks to the feeder poles using string or wire. These will be extra perches where birds can sit while waiting their turn at the feeder. Hang fruit slices from these branches, and you may attract more kinds of birds.

Ground or Platform Feeders

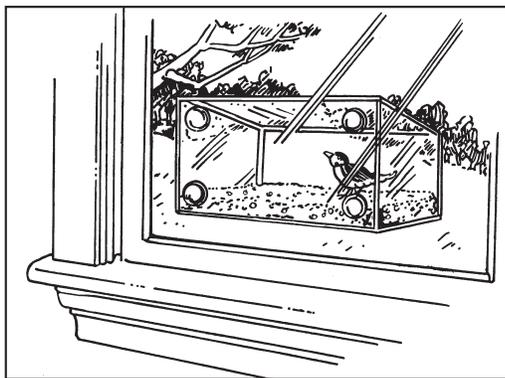
Ground or platform feeders attract birds such as bluejays, brown-headed cowbirds, cardinals, common grackles, crows, juncos, mourning doves, bobwhites, pigeons, red-winged blackbirds, pheasants, towhees, sparrows, and many other species, depending on where you live. Ground feeders also usually attract a lot of squirrels and chipmunks, not to mention mice and rats that may come to dine at night! Keep your ground feeders farther from your house than the other feeders so you won’t encourage the mice to visit you indoors! Platform feeders are easy to make (with an adult’s help).



Ground or Platform Feeders

Window Feeders

You can buy small feeders that suction to your window. These are great fun because they allow you to see the birds up close from inside your house. Window box feeders are excellent since they are large and can be cleaned from inside your house. They fit snugly right into the open window so the outside air can't come in. Window box feeders can be expensive, but they are one of the best ways to watch bird behavior. It takes a while for birds to come to these feeders and to become accustomed to humans peering at them. Keep at a distance at first. Before long they'll accept you as part of the scenery!



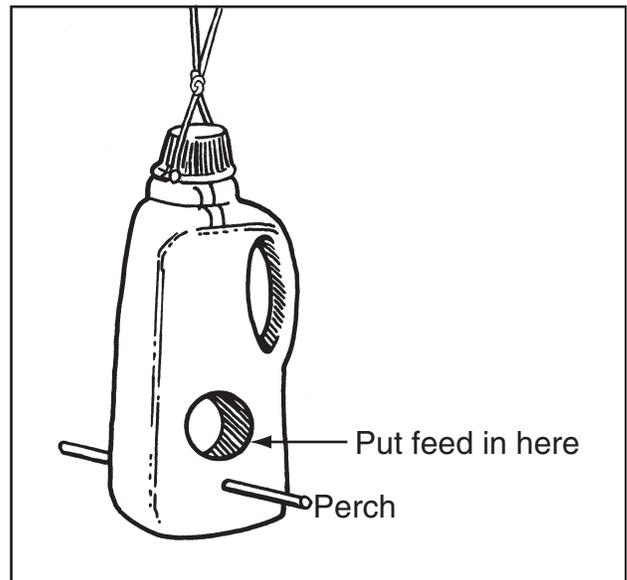
Window Feeder

Make a Detergent Bottle Feeder

This one is easy to make, and a good way to recycle plastic!

You will need:

- a detergent bottle rinsed out very well
- scissors
- a glass or mustard jar lid
- a hole punch or thick nail
- a drill (optional, for adult use only)
- one 10–12 inch (25–30 cm) dowel or stick (depending on the width of the base of the bottle)
- a marker
- twine



Detergent Bottle Feeder

Procedure:

1. Trace the outline of the rim of a glass or the lid of a mustard jar (or something approximately that size) on opposite sides of the detergent bottle. Those circles should be about 4 inches (10 cm) from the bottom of the bottle.
2. Cut the holes out with scissors. This can be especially hard to get started, so you may need adult help.
3. Use a hole punch (if the bottle isn't too thick), or have an adult use a nail or a drill (if it's *really* thick!), to make two holes, right under the circles, for a perch.
4. Insert the dowel or stick all the way through the perch holes. Allow about 3 inches (8 cm) on each side of the bottle for the birds to perch on.
5. Punch or have an adult drill small holes in the bottom of the bottle so that rainwater will drain out.
6. Fill the bottle with seed and wrap and tie the twine tightly around the bottle cap. Hang away from places where squirrels can reach it.

67. Write a report for your classmates telling them why they should buy or make one of the bird feeders in this article. In your report, you must

- give the name of the feeder,
- describe how the feeder works, and
- explain the good points about the feeder (why somebody should buy or make this kind of feeder instead of another).

Be sure to use information from the article in your report.

Scoring Guide

Score	Description
4	Response provides a thorough report with the name of the feeder, a description of how the feeder works, and an explanation of the good points about the feeder. Response includes relevant supporting information from the article.
3	Response provides a report with the name of the feeder, a description of how the feeder works, and an explanation of the good points about the feeder. Response lacks some development and/or supporting information.
2	Response provides a partial answer: Response addresses the three points listed above with little or no supporting information for each. OR Response addresses one or two points listed above, with some relevant supporting information from the article.
1	Response gives a minimal or vague statement about a particular type of feeder mentioned in the article.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	No response.

Report should include the name of one feeder described in the article with most of the bulleted points included below for each.

Hanging or hopper feeders:

- most popular kind of feeder
- allow only a certain amount of seeds at a time to be released
- come in many shapes and sizes
- can be made from glass, plastic, or wood (a student may see this as a plus)
- can be hung from a wire or mounted on a pole
- can be customized by adding extra perches
- fruit slices can hang from these feeders

Ground or platform feeders:

- attract a wide variety of birds (according to the article). Response may or may not mention specific species of birds.
- are easy to make (with an adult's help)

Window feeders:

- allow birds to be seen from inside the house
- can suction easily to a window
- a window box feeder can be cleaned from inside the house
- a window box feeder will not let the outside air in

Detergent bottle feeder:

- a great way to recycle plastic (response may or may not mention environment)
- inexpensive—no need to buy a feeder
- uses common, everyday materials
- is easy to make
- can be fun to make (this may be student's own conclusion)
- Accept other plausible text-based conclusions or reasonable personal conclusions.

Score Point 4

Sample 1

You should make the Hopper feeders because you can hang it from a wire or use a pole and stick it in the ground. Hopper feeders come in many different shapes and sizes. They can be tubes and boxes usually made out of wood. Hopper feeders allow a certain amount of seed at a time. You can customize your bird feeder by adding perches for the other birds to stand on while their waiting their turn in the line. Some wood hoppers can have plastic on both sides or no plastic at all. The Hopper feeder is the most popular type of bird feeders.

Thorough for all three parts of the prompt. Includes relevant supporting details: “hopper feeder” for name of feeder, “allow a certain amount of seed at a time” for how it works, and “can customize” for benefits.

Score Point 3

Sample 1

I think people could make Hanging or Hopper Feeders. Because they are easy and fun. When you make a Hanging feeder you get a plastic bottle and you make two holes in it and put sticks at the bottom of the holes. When you make a Hopper feeder you put a stick in the ground and make a house out of wood and nail it to the stick.

Needs more development. The name of the feeder is given. "Easy and fun" implies the benefit of the feeder. The last sentence implies how the feeder works.

Score Point 2

Sample 1

I think the Window Feeder is good. Because you can see the birds up close and watch them eat. I think you should buy this bird feeder for a good reason for you to see birds up close.

Addresses just two points in the prompt, the name of the feeder and its benefits.

Score Point 1

Sample 1

You should always make a ground
or platform feeders. Keep your
ground feeder away from your
house.

Names a feeder and makes a minimal statement about it.

Score Point 0

Sample 1

You can make a bird feeder because
birds don't have to get the worms out
of an flowerbed,

Irrelevant. Nothing text based.